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## Thailand

### Grain and Feed

### Weekly Rice Price Update

## 2004

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**Report Highlights:**

Export prices increased noticeably due to a flash of strong demand from China.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1]  
[TH]

**Indicative Price (Week Ending Mar. 8):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	490	475	552	503	-	485	490	499	500
WR 100 B	240	235	242	237	-	244	230	238	225
PB 5%	225	223	236	232	-	239	225	230	218
WR 5%	235	230	234	232	-	236	225	232	219
WR 10%	230	225	229	229	-	231	220	227	215
WR 15%	228	220	224	224	-	270	215	230	211
WR 25%	223	215	223	220	-	220	210	219	207
WR 35%	218	210	221	218	-	216	205	215	202
A 1 SUP	198	198	192	197	-	196	195	196	190
A 1 SPEC	196	196	191	195	-	-	194	194	189
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

**Market Tone**

Export prices for most grades of rice continued to increase significantly, due mainly to unexpected strong demand for white rice from China, following its shortage there. Also, domestic supply remained tight, as the supply of second crop will not come onto the market until the next few months. Some exporters did not quote prices, due to the current volatility in the market. However, it is expected that the situation will come back to normal soon.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
JAN 18	119,650	-	208	178
JAN 25	72,837	-	280	294
FEB 1	99,666	93,281	380	365
FEB 8	111,643	100,949	492	446
FEB 15	130,404	103,638	622	535
FEB 22	130,267	117,995	753	613
FEB 29	142,979	128,823	895	699
MAR 7	101,059	126,177	996	745

*Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.*

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Mar. 1-7, 2004 totaled 101,059 tons, down 41,919 tons from the previous week's total and down 25,118 tons from the four-week moving average of 126,177 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – Mar. 7, 2004 totaled 996,426 tons, compared with 744,562 tons during the same period in 2003.

According to the Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1- Mar. 1, 2004, amounted to 1,286,212 tons, up 13 percent from 1,134,598 tons in the previous year.

### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Feb. 16-20, Feb. 23-27, and Mar. 1-5, 2004 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Feb. 16-20	Feb. 23-27	Mar 1-5
weekly sales	106,695	114,262	104,958
4 week sum	631,990	555,985	484,432
4 week mov. avg.	157,998	138,996	121,108
Total weekly sales	945,453	1,059,715	1,164,673

End of Report.